



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Thursday - September 25, 2003

- ***In the West***, the remnants of Hurricane Marty continue to produce locally heavy showers and isolated flooding in the ***Desert Southwest***, including the ***lower Colorado Valley***. Elsewhere, warm, dry weather favors fieldwork, although recently planted ***Northwestern*** winter grains need additional moisture to ensure proper autumn establishment.
- ***On the Plains***, isolated showers are confined to ***northern and southernmost portions of the region***. Nevertheless, additional rainfall is still needed for even emergence and establishment of recently planted winter wheat, especially from the ***central High Plains northward into Montana***.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, widespread frost was reported this morning across Nebraska, the Dakotas, Minnesota, and northern and western Iowa, where low temperatures generally ranged from 27 to 37 degrees F. Corn in the frost- and freeze-affected areas were not susceptible to damage, but a few late-developing soybean fields in Iowa and Nebraska may have been vulnerable to sub-freezing temperatures.
- ***In the South***, locally heavy showers are confined to the eastern Gulf Coast region. Elsewhere, warm, dry weather is promoting summer crop maturation and harvesting. Hurricane recovery efforts continue in the ***southern Mid-Atlantic region***.

Outlook: For the remainder of today, a weakening cold front will bring a brief period of showers to the ***North-eastern and Mid-Atlantic States***. On Friday, however, a more powerful cold front will trigger showers and thundershowers across the ***Midwest and middle Mississippi Valley***, while very cool weather will overspread the ***northern Plains***. Additional frosts and freezes are likely into early next week across the ***northern Plains*** and ***upper Midwest***. Meanwhile, moisture associated with the remnants of Hurricane Marty will result in scattered showers as far east as the ***Rio Grande Valley***. Warm, dry weather will prevail elsewhere in the ***West***, while locally heavy rainfall is possible across ***Florida***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for September 30 - October 4 calls for above-normal precipitation in ***California***, the ***Great Basin***, and the ***southern Atlantic region***, while drier-than-normal conditions are forecast from the ***Rockies to the Appalachians***. Above-normal temperatures are likely from the ***Rockies westward***, while cooler-than-normal weather is expected in the ***eastern half of the U.S.***

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Web Site: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf/AgWxHighlights/TODAYSWX.PDF>